FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 SEPTEMBER 1980

Iran

Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i on 31 August was finally able to submit a list of his prospective Cabinet members to Majles Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani after a long delay caused by serious differences with President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. According to PARS, the 20-man cabinet includes only three ministers serving in the current government. Raja'i retained the education portfolio, Mohammad Qandi the Post, Telegraph and Telephone Ministry and Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani the interior portfolio. Reza Sadr, minister of commerce in the current government, is one of two men listed by PARS to head the Commerce Ministry in the new government. Apparently, the Majles will have a choice between him and Asadollah Lajvardi. The new foreign minister will be Hoseyn Musavi Khamene'i, currently editor of the daily ISLAMIC REPUBLIC. The defense portfolio remains vacant.

The ISLAMIC REVOLUTION, in an article reported by AFP, said that Bani-Sadr has not approved the cabinet and cited him as accusing "certain people" of not wanting to have a "cabinet of cooperation." In an interview with Tehran radio, Raja'i said that Bani-Sadr had originally told him he would have "nothing to do" with the ministerial appointments except for interior and defense and that the president had given him a "free hand" to select the other ministers. However, according to Raja'i, Bani-Sadr then rejected some of the ministers he had selected on the grounds that he could not work with them. But after further meetings, including an 8-hour session on 26 August during which changes were made in the final list, the president told Raja'i by way of agreement that he would "work with this cabinet of yours. Raja'i said the defense portfolio will remain open until Bani-Sadr acts on it.

In a statement carried by the Tehran TIMES, reported by AFP, President Bani-Sadr reiterated that the holding of the American hostages has made Iran the "hostage of the United States. He said that Iran's present policy in this regard is an "illusion" and will prevent the country from taking advantage of present "international possibilities" and thus gaining its "true independence" from the United States. Bani-Sadr also supported Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh's statement favoring release of the hostages but criticized him for having taken this stand too late. However, Tehran media have taken the opposite stance in a surge of comment possibly previewing the reemergence of the hostage question as an active and divisive internal political issue. A Tehran radio commentary criticized the Foreign Ministry for opposing the trial of the hostages on the grounds that any such trial would be detrimental to Iran's interests. The commentary noted that since the revolution the United States has not stopped acting against Iran and that putting the hostages on trial would make "no difference" in the U.S. threat. The radio said that the hostages should be tried if only to disgrace the United States before the world and fulfill the wishes of the imam and the nation. Another Tehran radio commentary suggested that the hostage taking was not the "blow to the revolution" that some claimed but instead was a "revolutionary action serving the revolution." It concluded that the hostages are the only "weapon" Iran has against the United States. ETTELA'AT disagreed with those who want to release the hostages in the belief that this would end Iran's "political isolation." In a commentary broadcast by Tehran radio, the paper said their fear was unjustified, since Iran should not be afraid of political isolation from "infidels and polytheists." However, ETTELA'AT stated that the hostage issue is the most important item on the Majles agenda after the approval of a new cabinet and should not be treated in a "superficial way" and in a "secondary" capacity, as the prolongation of the issue would resolve the question to the detriment of Iran.

In a brief report, Tehran radio noted that Prime Minister Raja'i has received a letter from Secretary of State Edmund Muskie. The radio cited Raja'i as saying that the contents of the letter would be released to the public "shortly."

According to Tehran radio, the Majles Foreign Relations Committee's draft reply to a letter sent by U.S. congressmen was read out to the assembly on 1 September but was returned to the committee for further consideration and the possible incorporation of the views of deputies who suggested amendments to the draft. In a more detailed report, AFP said that the draft accused the United States of having committed an "act of war" against Iran by harboring the shah and concluded that the taking of the hostages was a "natural reaction" to this. The letter said that the United States could "defuse" the crisis by assuming responsibility for the "human suffering and financial damage" imposed on Iran and by pursuing an "intelligent policy and ceasing to be obstinate." According to AFP, among the deputies who raised objections to the draft was Hasan Ayat, who complained that it did not sufficiently emphasize America's "crimes."

Tehran radio reported that a group of Kordestan guards took part in a march in Mashhad which began at the "place where the American spies are kept." Student Statement 142, issued on 25 August, had stated that all hostages held in the provincial towns would be moved to secret locations. Mashhad was not among the towns mentioned in the statement as locations from which hostages had already been moved.

Egypt, Israel

In his third letter to Prime Minister Menahem Begin, carried by MENA, President Anwar as-Sadat did not directly reject issues raised in the Israeli prime minister's 18 August letter and brought up no new points of his own, saying that at this stage in their exchange it is not "necessary or useful to continue arguing over this or that stand" and that he has no intention of engaging in "polemics." He stated that instead a "common ground" must be found and an "appropriate atmosphere" created for the resumption of the autonomy negotiations. Calling the Egyptian-Israel rapprochement an "experiment in peace," the Egyptian president said that it is "historically inevitable" that agreement will be achieved on "all pending issues," and he once again suggested that "common goals" can best be reached at a summit conference to be held at an appropriate time." As-Sadat had earlier specified that a tripartite summit should be held after the U.S. elections.

Jerusalem radio reported that the Israeli Cabinet decided to answer As-Sadat's letter by saying that Israel "preferred" to continue the autonomy negotiations rather than hold a tripartite summit. A later report by the radio said that an Israeli spokesman had denied a REUTER story reporting that Begin had rejected As-Sadat's proposal for a summit. The spokesman also said that there had been "no Israeli discussion of the proposal."

ROSE AL-YUSUF disclosed that Cairo has received U.S. "assurances" that "positive steps" will be taken during presidential envoy Sol Linowitz's visit to Israel to remove Israeli obstacles to the resumption of the autonomy negotiations. The magazine said that Ambassador Linowitz will also be discussing with Israeli officials President as-Sadat's call for a tripartite summit. However, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has expressed "pessimism" over the outcome of Ambassador Linowitz's visit. An AFP story citing 'Ali's comments as reported by AL-AHRAM said the foreign minister stated that the Linowitz mission would be a "failure" if he did not bring up with Israeli officials the "requirements" for renewing the autonomy talks.

According to Jerusalem radio, Interior Minister Burg characterized his 1 September talks with Ambassador Linowitz as "difficult" and said that a decision will have to be made as to whether to continue discussiols with Egypt on the basis of "discreet, secret" diplomacy or to maintain "open negotiations." Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said he and Ambassador Linowitz have agreed that there is "no substitute" for the Camp David accords. He also told the ambassador that the European Middle East initiative "undermines" these accords.

In a statement reported by MENA and Cairo radio, Prime Minister 'Ali said that Egypt is currently pursuing two complementary lines, both of which are aimed at pressuring Israel into a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East question. The first, according to 'Ali, is based on Egyptian-American coordination within the context of the Camp David agreement until Israel changes its policies and thus opens the door to resumption of the autonomy talks. The second line constitutes international efforts such as those exerted at the OAU summit conference in Sierra Leone. 'Ali noted that Egypt differs with the United States in that it believes that further negotiations with Israel will be "futile" in light of recent Israeli actions, whereas the United States, "for electoral reasons," wants to resume the talks. 'Ali charged that Israel is trying to take the Camp David agreements out of their original context of reaching a comprehensive peace in the Middle East and that it has "evaded its pledges," particularly the one that no move would be made in regard to Jerusalem.

In an interview with LE MONDE, reported by AFP, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said that Egypt is "open and attentive" to any formula which would bring about peace in the Middle East. Ghali stressed that Camp David is not "dogma" and is only "one practical means among others" to resolve the problem and that any initiative which would bring together the Arab states, Palestinians, Israel and the United States would be welcome. Ghali's comments, as reported by AFP, did not go as far as an earlier statement published in the Kuwait TIMES in which he said that the "most feasible" way to resolve the Middle East crisis is through a general conference under UN auspices.

Israeli Defense Minister

Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Begin and Moshe Arens met on 1 September and then initialed a joint statement on their talks. According to the statement, Arens reiterated that despite what his "friends" may have intimated to the prime minister, he has not changed his mind and will not accept the defense portfolio in Begin's Cabinet because of "differences of opinion" with the Cabinet and "given the background of its policy." Arens has in the past expressed reservations over the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt. A subsequent IDF radio report stated that Begin is prepared to continue to act as defense minister, as there are no other candidates that he finds acceptable.

Libya

Tripoli radio's Voice of the Arab Homeland carried live a speech given by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi marking the 11th anniversary of the Libyan revolution in which the Libyan leader urged the "escalation" of the "popular march" on Libyan embassies abroad, including those in Arab states. He also said that the Foreign Liaison Bureau should be reorganized in order that it become more "popular and democratic." In the same spirit, he tasked the revolutionary committees with taking over the information media and said that it is "inevitable that the establishment of the armed people should be speeded up to end the regular army." After spending much of his speech lauding Syria and its policy, Al-Qadhdhafi proposed a "merger of unity" between Libya and Syria in which the peoples of the two countries will "share responsibilities on an equal footing." In what presumably signified advanced Syrian knowledge of this proposal and acquiescence with it, Demascus radio carried the Al-Qadhdhafi speech live in parallel with the Tripoli broadcast.

Pakistan

Chairman of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission Munir Ahmed Khan, in a statement reported by Karachi radio, said that Pakistan is now "capable" of producing nuclear fuel from uranium available in the country. Khan called this a "big breakthrough" and claimed that Pakistan has joined a group of select countries which can produce their own nuclear fuel. Khan stressed that Pakistan intends to use its atomic capability for peaceful purposes only.

The Pakistani Government has replied to a protest lodged by the Indian Government over Pakistani reaction to anti-Muslim riots in India. The government, in a statement reported by Karachi radio, said that it is "obvious" that actions taken by the Indian Government to restore law and order in Moradabad and other areas are the internal affairs of India and that while it is "possible" that the Pakistani press and public opinion leaders have "expressed their opinions," it is "not right" to charge that the Pakistani Government has encouraged such comment. The government said that Pakistan is "definitely not linked" to any efforts to undermine a nieghboring state and that it is taking "all possible steps" to ensure that Pakistan's commitment under the Simla agreement not to engage in propaganda against India is being fulfilled. The statement went on to mention, however, that Indian radio and television "of late" have aired programs containing anti-Pakistan propaganda.

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KARMAL ANSWERS BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE

LD302120 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Babrak Karmal, General secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, has sent the following telegram to Moscow addressed to L. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Aleksey N. Kosygin, USSR premier, in reply to their telegram on the occasion of the 61st anniversary of the regaining of the independence of Afghanistan:

My esteemed Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and dear Comrade Aleksey N. Kosygin, premier of the USSR, accept the deepest, sincere and heartfelt thanks of the people, the PDFA Central Committee, the Revolution Council, the DRA Government and my personal thanks for your warm and brotherly congratulations on the occasion of the 61st anniversary of the regaining of the independence of Afghanistan.

Friendship and cooperation with the great Soviet people have always been in the interests of the people of Afghanistan. Under the chairmanship of the great V.I. Lenin, the USSR was the first country which officially recognized Afghanistan. The memory of this glorious fact will always and eternally remain in the hearts of the Afghans.

Since then Afghan-Soviet relations have progressed and developed, continually fruitful and without deviation and based on neighborliness, friendship and brotherhood and respect for the right of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and mutual cooperation.

The friendly relations with the USSR have provided and are providing the objective base for the development progress of Afghanistan.

With loyalty to the principles of friendship and brotherhood and revolutionary solidarity and in pursuance of the policy of Leninism by the USSR after the Sawr Revolution, in particular in its second development stage, the USSR has firmly supported the achievements of the revolution and has assisted and is assisting revolutionary and independent Afghanistan in its confrontation with the aggressive actions of the enemies of progressive Afghanistan. The people of Afghanistan attach great value to this uninterested assistance and are confident that after maintaining the peaceful life in Afghanistan, the glorious pages of unparalleled and fruitful cooperation--peaceful and constructive--will become a part of the history of the relations between Afghanistan and the USSR as a lofty and progressive international example and in the interest of the people of the two countries.

I desire, on behalf of the people of Afghanistan, the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolution Council and the DRA Government and also on my own behalf further success and prosperity for the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Government and to you personally, esteemed Comrades Leonid Brezhnev and A. N. Kosygin.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the DRA

PASHTUNS, BALUCHIS CELEBRATE NATIONAL DAY IN KABUL

LD011638 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 31 Aug 80

[Excerpts] The national day of our Pashtun and Baluch brothers was celebrated today with special ceremonies here in Kabul and in other provincial capitals.

In the ceremony which was held in Kabul on this occasion, Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray and Nur Ahmad Nur, secretaries and members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee Politburo and members of the presidium of the Revolution Council; Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, member of the Presidium, vice chairman of the Revolution Council and deputy premier; members of the Politburo and Central Committee of the PDPA; 'Abdorrashid Arian, member of the party Central Committee and member of the Revolution Council, deputy premier, minister of justice and supreme prosecutor; a number of members of the Revolution Council and the Council of Ministers; cadres and party activists; leading delegations of the Afghan women and youth democratic organizations; members of the Afghan trade unions; generals and high-ranking officers of the armed forces and high-ranking government officials; Pashtuns and Baluchis resident in Kabul and a great number of the toilers of Kabul city took part.

At the beginning of the ceremony, a few verses of the Korean were read and, subsequently, Asadollah (Ayam), the mayor of Kabul, made a speech in which he said: I have the pleasure to congratulate the national day of the Pashtuns and Baluchis, the great and struggling leader of the Pashtuns, Khan 'Abdolghafar Khan, and the brave and courageous tribes of Pashtun and Baluch, on behalf of the brave and toiling citizens of Kabul. The mayor of Kabul made a detailed statement about this historic day of the Pashtun and Baluchi tribes. He said: The history of the freedom movement of the broad masses of the Pashtuns and Baluchis is indicative of the fact that Pashtuns and Baluchis have never lowered and will never lower their heads in submission to colonialist and aggressive forces.

After the raising of the flag Ajmal Khatak, the revolutionary poet of the Pashtuns made a comprehensive speech and after an explanation of the continuous and just struggle of the Pashtun and Baluch peoples said: The Afghan revolution is like a roaring flood, the path of which cannot be blocked by any type of straw and chipping, and is striving forward with firm steps toward the implementation of its lofty and human objectives.

KARMAL RECEIVES USSR-BOUND PASHTUN LEADER

LD301850 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister, received the great and struggling Pashtun leader, Khan 'Abdolghafar Khan, this afternoon at the Revolution Council headquarters, where they had afternoon tea together.

Minister of Frontier and Tribal Affairs Ayz Mohammad was also present at the meetings.

The directorate of the Revolution Council reports that Khan 'Abdolghafar Khan, who is very soon leaving for the USSR for a series of medical examinations and treatment, came to the revolutionary headquarters to bid farewell to Babrak Karmal.

MEETINGS HELD TO AFFIRM SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT

LD301924 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] The brave people of Pirza'i of the chief district of Knowst in the Province of Paktia, during a ceremony for the formation of resistance groups, once again demonstrated their valor in defending the lofty aims of the Sawr Revolution.

In the ceremony that was organized at the district headquarters, youths and intellectuals signed up to join resistance groups.

Respected listeners: Before continuing the BAKHTAR bulletin we draw your attention to part of the interview which was held by a Radio Afghanistan correspondent with some of the residents of the subdistrict of Charkh-e Vardak and the district officer. These had participated in the large solidarity meeting held the day before yesterday to express the support of the people of the district with their national and revolutionary government.

[Unidentified speaker] We are cooperating with all our strength with the government. The government is ours and we are of the government. [applause] [Words indistinct] the misunderstanding that has been created by the enemies among us is without foundation and meaning. We, thank God, are all Muslims, the government is also Islamic. We are Muslims, we (?need) one anothers' cooperation, sympathy and [word indistinct].

We are the servants of the government, and the government is assisting us, [applause] although we have seen a great deal of trouble and many difficulties; but, God willing, He will help us if we can be united. We shall help you and you us; we are your arms and you are ours. We wish you success. [applause]

[Second unidentified speaker] We residents of Charkh-e Vardak have seen a great many difficulties. On top of that some schoolchildren have been eliminated. Similarly, schools have been (?destroyed).

[Another voice in Pashto, possible district officer] Here, in the district of Charkh-e Vardak, people were terrified when we arrived. They were nowhere to be seen in the villages. When we inspected the villages, we noticed that most of them returned from the mountains. When we asked them why they had taken to the mountains, they were unwilling to come into speak with us. They were afraid of us because counterrevolutionary elements had frightened them, saying that if you meet with them they slay you or they will put you in vehicles imprisoning you or killing you, or they will send you to other countries.

When they saw our positive approach, gradually they came from their villages and most of them asked us for permission, asking whether it would be in order if they came down from the mountains. We told them: With pleasure, we will help you. Although most comrades helped them in cutting their crops and in making it possible for them to come to their homes, they were at first terrified, very frightened and astonished. They gradually came to their normal selves. They had taken their wives and children with them to the mountains. They were told by the counterrevolutionary elements that if they did not take their families, they would be eliminated. They were deceived into taking to the mountains.

Although there are few counterrevolutionary elements, they apply pressure on others so that all will take to the mountains with them, and thus portray them all as counterrevolutionary.

The schools were completely abandoned because counterrevolutionary elements are basically against learning. They do not want culture and learning in any area, for if there is learning and enlightenment in an area, their roots cannot spread there.

We have tried to keep the (Homa'i) school open. Lectures are now continuing and pupils are attending the school. Another school is also about to be reopened. It is the same here in Charkh-e Vardak district; if a school has been built with the expenditure of 1 million afghanis, they destroy that too, thus eliminating a great investment and a historic building.

COVERAGE OF JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT IN DELHI

Meeting With Gandhi

BK291651 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Aug 80

[Text] Visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito had a detailed exchange of views with the Indian leaders in New Delhi today on bilateral and international issues, particularly developments in Kampuchea and Afghanistan. Though the two sides differed on how to resolve the problems in these two countries, they have agreed that this can be done only by a political solution through peaceful means. On the essential aspects of both these issues there were no significant differences, though each has its own perception of the situation. The situation in the region was discussed with Ito's meeting with Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi and later at some length with Foreign Secretary Sathe.

Ito also called on President Sanjiva Reddy and had meetings with Finance Minister Venkataraman and Minister of State for Industries Chanana.

In a resume of India's relations with its neighbors, Mrs Gandhi expressed her unhappiness at the manner in which Pakistan has acted on the recent disturbances in India. She said this was an interference in the internal affairs of this country and was not conducive to the promotion of communal harmony to which India is committed.

An official spokesman said that the prime minister's observation came in the course of her review of India's efforts to build up en environment of peace and cooperation in this region. She reiterated the government's commitment to normalize relations with Pakistan. India also wanted to normalize its relations with China.

Mrs Gandhi extended an invitation, through Ito, to Japanese Prime Minister Suzuki to pay a visit to India.

29 Aug Banquet

BK300314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] The problems facing the Southeast Asian region can be solved through mutual peaceful discussions without outside great power rivalries in the region. This was stated by Finance Minister Venkataraman while speaking at a dinner hosted by him in honor of visiting Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ito in New Delhi last night.

Referring to India-Japanese relations, Mr Venkataraman said they are based on sound and secure foundations. He said that both of them will continue their efforts to improve mutual trust and cooperation with neighbors. The finance minister expressed the hope that Japan will play a constructive role in creating a new international economic order. In this connection the current session of the UN General Assembly on international economic cooperation should show a way out of the current impasse, he added.

In his reply, the Japanese foreign minister appreciated India's efforts for promoting and maintaining peace and stability in the region. Mr Ito said: Under the outstanding leadership of Mrs Gandhi, India is fulfilling its global responsibility and playing a significant role. He said Japan shares with India the common ideals and objectives with regard to peace and stability in Asia.

Departure for Pakistan

BK301245 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito left New Delhi for Islamabad this afternoon after his 2-day visit to this country.

In a brief statement to newsmen before his departure, Ito described his talks with the Indian leaders as very fruitful. They discussed several issues including those of Afghanistan and Kampuchea. Japan's economic assistance to India also came up during the discussions. Ito said there are no issues confronting the two countries. He expressed the hope that the friendship between the two countries would be further enhanced.

GANDHI ADDRESS ON PLANNING, U.S. TRADE RESTRICTIONS CITED

BK300910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Excerpts] The prime minister has said that the main task before the planners is to energize the economy to achieve the principal objectives of removal of poverty and unemployment and the attainment of self-reliance. Mrs Gandhi was addressing the national development council, which began its 2-day meeting in New Delhi this morning. The conference is being attended by central ministers, chief ministers of states and union territories and members of the planning commission. Underlining the need for self-reliance, the prime minister observed that the international environment is becoming harder every day for the developing countries. While the oil crisis and the global inflation have upset all our earlier calculations and hopes, the rich nations are only interested in taking care of their own members. She cited the instance of the decision of the United States to impose higher duties on Indian exports and its reluctance to supply fuel for the Tarapur nuclear plant. This, however, has an indirect benefit. We are today less impressed by foreign advice, she added.

Seeking the cooperation of the state governments in achieving the plan objectives, Mrs Gandhi said she firmly believes in a relationship of trust and cooperation between the center and the states. Mrs Gandhi expressed deep sorrow over the recent incidents in different parts of the country causing loss of life and property and creating suspicion between different communities. There is a distinct attempt to destabilize the government functioning. The prime minister said this has to be kept in view because it has a direct bearing on our development. Such incidents slow down the national will to build.

Earlier, Minister of Planning Narain Dutt Tiwari broadly outlined the framework of the sixth plan formulated by the planning commission. He stressed the need to proceed expeditiously with the task of finalizing the sixth plan by the end of his year so that next year's central and state government budgets will reflect fully the goals and the programs of the new plan.

AFP Report

BK301413 Hong Kong AFP in English 1329 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] New Delhi, 30 Aug (AFP)--Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi today charged the United States with not honouring its agreements with India on trade and supply of nuclear fuel.

The issues under reference were the recent U.S. decision not to extend the benefits of the multilateral trade agreement and impose countervailing duties on Indian goods and the protracted delay in clearing supplies of enriched uranium for use at the Tarapur atomic power plant under the contract.

Mrs. Gandhi made the critical references to the United States in the overall context of unhelpful attitude of the developed countries to the developing countries in the current world economic crisis. She was addressing a meeting of the national development council here.

Mrs. Gandhi said India was among the "hardest hit" developing countries by the oil crisis. All India's calculations had been upset by the global inflation. "Rich men's clubs take care of their own members and we are told to fend for ourselves. For example, although an international code was negotiated to which the United States of America and India were both signatories, the U.S. has now refused to extend the benefits of these provisions to us. As a result our exports will be subjected to higher duties there," she said.

Also, despite a formal agreement being in force the nuclear fuel supply was not forthcoming from the U.S. "One indirect benefit of this has been that today we are less impressed by foreign advice," Mrs. Gandhi said.

Although this is the first time Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi has herself come out criticising the U.S. decision on the trade benefits, some other government officials have earlier reacted in much sharper terms.

Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee had termed it as "an unfriendly act."

Commerce Secretary A.S. Gill, who had participated in the abortive talks with the U.S. before the decision was finally taken by the Americans, said on his return that the U.S. action had caused "a serious setback" to the general climate of bilateral relationship. According to Mr. Gill, India has been told by the U.S. of its decision to impose countervailing duties as long as it does not give a firm commitment on phasing out its own subsidies on export goods.

'STRONG' PROTEST LODGED WITH PAKISTAN FOR INTERFERENCE

BK300300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] India has lodged a strong protest with Pakistan for interfering in its internal affairs by the way Islamabad commented on the recent incidents of violence in this country. Pakistan Ambassador in New Delhi Abdul Sattar was summoned to the External Affairs Ministry following a statement made by a Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman on the riots.

The ambassador was told that the statement constituted a direct and unprovoked interference in India's internal affairs. India also took strong objection on the way the Pakistani press reported and commented on these incidents.

It may be recalled that during her discussions with Japanese Foreign Minister Ito yesterday, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi expressed unhappiness at the manner in which Pakistan had acted on recent disturbances in India. She felt that this was an interference in the internal affairs of this country and was not conducive to the promotion of communal harmony to which India is committed.

An official spokesman said that the prime minister's observations came in a course of review of India's efforts to build up an environment of peace and cooperation in this region. She reiterated the government's commitment to normalize relations with Pakistan.

JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

BK301637 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito has said foreign military intervention and installation of regimes of its choice in Afghanistan and Kampuchea has created a situation which threatens world peace. He was talking to newsmen at Islamabad airport on his arrival on a 3-day official visit to Pakistan today.

He said the purpose of his visit is to have discussions on ways to preserve peace in Asia. He was confident that his talks with Pakistani leaders will contribute to the maintenance of peace and stability and further promote bilateral relations.

The Japanese foreign minister was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Minister Agha Shahi and senior officials of the Foreign Ministry. He will hold formal talks with the foreign minister tomorrow. He is expected to meet President Mohammad Ziaul Haq later in the afternoon.

Meeting With President

BK311623 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 Aug 80

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this afternoon. They discussed various international affairs and bilateral cooperation and held identity of views on international issues, especially on regional problems.

The president highly acclaimed Japan's economic aid to Pakistan. Japanese Foreign Minister Ito was understood to have reiterated his government intentions to help Pakistan according to its resources.

Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Katori, the Pakistani foreign secretary, the Japanese ambassador to Pakistan, and the Pakistani ambassador to Japan were also present on the occasion.

Earlier, the Japanese foreign minister exchanged views on bilateral matters and regional situation with Agha Shahi in Islamabad.

GOVERNMENT REPLIES TO INDIAN PROTEST ON INTERFERENCE

BK011010 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] It is reported that the Pakistan Government has told the Indian Government that it will continue to endeavor to maintain a tension-free atmosphere conducive to further promoting the process of normalization of relations between the two countries.

According to a report, the Pakistan Government, in reply to a communication of the Indian foreign secretary received through the Pakistan ambassador in New Delhi, has also said that Pakistan believes that good-neighborly relations between India and Pakistan are in the interest of both countries and their peoples.

The Pakistan Government believes that the pledge given by both countries not to interfere in each other's internal affairs is an essential condition for good-neighborly relations between the two countries as well as lasting peace.

It is obvious that the disturbances in Moradabad and some other Indian areas, and action taken to restore law and order, are internal affairs of India. The Pakistan people's reaction to the loss of life is natural. It is possible that a section of the press and leaders of public opinion in Pakistan, as in India, express their opinion with concern at some stage. However, it is not right to say that the Pakistan Government encouraged such expressions.

The Pakistan Government is not aware of any international conspiracy against the Indian Government and is definitely not linked to any efforts aimed against the stability and security of a neighboring state. Under the Simla agreement, both countries are committed not to indulge in propaganda against each other, and Pakistan is taking all possible steps in this connection. But All-India Radio and Television has of late broadcast many such programs that contained anti-Pakistan propaganda. It is clear that the linking of any local or internal issue to foreign countries does not benefit the country or its people.

It is reported that the Pakistan Government has said that it will extend all cooperation to promote internal peace and solidarity and friendly sentiments between the people of both countries.

CAPABILITY TO PRODUCE NUCLEAR FUEL ANNOUNCED

BK311620 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 Aug 80

[Text] Pakistan has become capable of producing nuclear fuel from the natural uranium available in the country. This was stated by Munir Ahmed Khan, chairman of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, while addressing a news conference in Karachi this evening.

Munir Ahmad Khan said this is a big breakthrough in the efforts to develop nuclear energy for peaceful pruposes. Pakistan has now entered the group of 12 select countries of the world which produce nuclear fuel themselves.

The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission chairman said the the fuel is produced in the Chashma complex and has been very successfully used in the Karachi nuclear power plant. He said that the indigenously produced nuclear fuel is for peaceful purposes, and that our program is reserved for peaceful use of nuclear power technology. He said that this will further help in accelerating our nuclear power program.

He said that Pakistan and Canada had signed an agreement in 1973 under which Canada was supposed to provide a plant for producing nuclear fuel in 1974. But the supply of equipment for the plant was suspended in December 1974, and in 1976 the Canadian Government canceled the supply of nuclear fuel and spare parts to Pakistan.

He said that the government has approved the setting up of a 600-megawat nuclear power plant at Chashma and that talks are underway to meet the foreign exchange requirements for this project, which amounts to $800 million.

Referring to increasing expenditure on oil imports, the Atomic Energy Commission chairman said that there was a need to utilize domestic resources to attain self-sufficiency in this regard.

DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS WITH U.S., HOSTAGES

Majles Deputy on Hostage Issue

LD311006 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 31 Aug 80

[Excerpt] According to our reporter, the first preagenda speaker in today's open session of the Islamic Majles was Hadi Ghaffari, the Tehran representative. In his speech, referring to people's demand that the issue of the American spy hostages should be cleared up as soon as possible, he mentioned that investigating the issue of the American hostages does not mean that they should be released and that the people demand that the fate of these hostages should be clarified according to Islamic principles.

Report to Majles on Hostage Letter

NC011013 Paris AFP in English 1007 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 1 Sep (AFP)--A long letter concerning Iran's American hostages, that took parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee a month to draft, was sent back to the committee today for possible lengthening. The draft is a proposed reply to a letter from 187 congressmen urging Iran's parliament to give absolute priority problem of 52 Americans held since November 4.

The draft, which took an hour to read to the Majles (parliament) today, charged that Washington had committed an "act of war" by harboring the late shah, adding that seizing the hostages was "a natural reaction." At the end, Islamic fundamentalist ideologist Hasan Ayat complained that the reply did "not sufficiently emphasize the American crimes enough." Another 20 deputies also proposed amendments.

Telling the delegates to send their suggestions to the Foreign Affairs Committee, Speaker Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani then returned the letter to this group for reconsideration.

The plea from the American congressmen was read to parliament here on July 30.

Further on Letter

NC011408 Paris AFP in English 1319 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 1 Sep (AFP)--A letter submitted to the Iranian parliament today in response to U.S. Congress request for a speedy debate on the American hostage issue suggested that the return of the late shah's property to Iran could open the way for a resolution of the crisis.

The United States could defuse the crisis by assuming its responsibility for the "human suffering and financial damage caused to Iran, the proposed text read.

But after it was read out, in the face of numerous calls for amendment, parliament's Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani returned the letter to the Foreign Affairs Committee for further consideration.

The refuge granted in the United States to the late shah was tantamount to an act of war and the taking of the embassy hostages was a natural reaction, the proposed letter said.

The text urged U.S. congressmen to examine their conscience and study the documents dealing with American involvement in Iran and "crimes" committed there.

"If the United States resorts to an intelligent policy and ceases to be obstinate, then the crisis can be resolved," the text said.

"We know the consequences the taking of hostages has had in the United States and what repercussions it has on American elections...but the resolution of the crisis is up to the U.S. Government," the letter said.

It further outlined the "crimes" committed by the U.S. in Iran since 1953 when a coup against the government brought the shah to power. This, the text said, was the "greatest crime of the United States."

"The United States has never tried to understand the Iranian Islamic Revolution, but has continually distorted it in the eyes of public opinion," the letter said.

Hasan Ayat, the principal ideologist of the fundamentalist Islamic Republican Party (IRP), said the proposed text did not put sufficient emphasis on the crimes of the United States. And with more than 20 deputies calling for amendments, the speaker sent the letter back to the committee.

Bani-Sadr Opposes Holding Hostages

NC301103 Paris AFP In English 1050 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Tehran, 30 Aug (AFP)--Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has repeated his opposition to the continued holding of 52 American hostages and the use of brutality in insure internal security, the English-language Tehran TIMES reported today. The continued detention of the United States Embassy personnel, who were taken last November when Iranian students stormed the embassy, has made Iran the hostage of the U.S., he was quoted as saying.

Iran's continued wish to cling to an illusion will prevent the country from gaining its true independence from the U.S., which can only be achieved if Iran takes advantage of present international possibilities, he told the newspaper.

Mr Bani-Sadr also expressed support for Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh's statement favoring the release of the hostages, but criticized Mr Qotbzadeh for not having taken his position immediately, instead of "now after we have suffered so much damage."

The use of brutal force to maintain order within the country constitutes a return to the practices used under the ex-shah, he told the newspaper, adding "and if we do it as well, then we have not succeeded in changing the old practices in this country."

Moreover, the judiciary must apply the law as it is written, and not as people interpret it, he added.

In discussing the activities of Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, the hard-line judge who has waged a battle against drug trafficking, the president was quoted as saying "those whose activities are un-Islamic should not think they would be spared."

Concerning the delay in forming a permanent cabinet, Mr Bani-Sadr said Iran needed a strong government, and it would take time to constitute it. But he declined to speculate or offer an opinion on the nominations to be made by Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i.

Rafsanjani Comment on Hostages

LD291758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Aug 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majles, in an exclusive interview with PARS NEWS AGENCY, discussed the Majles agenda during the coming week and the fate of the U.S. hostages.

In reply to a question about when the approval of credentials would be finished, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani said: There are only two or three credentials left. Should the investigative commission submit its (?report) to us, then we can attend to these credentials by the end of this week.

Concerning the vacant seats in the Majles belonging to some provincials MP's, Mr Rafsanjani said: The presence of these vacant seats is in contravention of the Constitution. The Majles has stressed this point to the Interior Ministry. The latter is awaiting an announcement by the Council of Guardians to the effect that it is ready to supervise the elections. The necessary arrangements have already been made to hold elections in some towns.

Commenting on the issue of the hostages, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said: This issue should be attended to at the first opportunity, naturally, after having attended to urgent issues and [word indistinct] such as the approval of credentials and the question of the Cabinet, which ordinarily would be one of the important issues to be dealt with by the Majles this week.

In reply to a question on the fate of seats vacated by those MP's appointed to Cabinet posts, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said: A proposal has been submitted to the Majles on this matter. The initial view of the MP's was that to keep these seats vacant would be to act against the Constitution. However, this issue should be dealt with at a more appropriate time and with the opinion of the Council of Guardians regarding the constitutional aspects of the issue. If it is established that to leave these seats vacant would be against the Constitution, then, naturally, they would not be allowed to remain vacant. Subsequently, an appropriate number of MP's would be elected to fill these seats.

Commentary Supporting Trial

LD292202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2010 GMT 29 Aug 80

[Unattributed commentary: "Religious Congregations or Spy Nests?"]

[Excerpts] In the wake of the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the CIA, the intelligence services and Mossad launched a series of [word indistinct] in Iran. These espionage agencies, under various guises, are bent on overthowing the Islamic Republic system in Iran. However, since U.S. imperialism and its affiliated agencies have been facing defeat in realizing their objective, they have resorted to other means in order to arouse the least suspicion among the masses. One of these methods recently designed by imperialist espionage agencies has been the utilization of Christian religious institutions, namely churches and bishoprics, which have recently had an important role in recent plots in Iran. Among these places reference may be made to the Christian school called Andisheh and the Esfahan bishopric, recently discovered by our brothers in the Revolution Guards Corps. According to the evidence discovered, this bishopric has had direct contact with dissident army officers, chieftains and tribal groups. The objective was to (?organize things) through them and to subsequently bring the plot to fruition through these people, who are Iranians.

An interesting point in the midst of all this is that despite all the points raised and the plots hatched by the United States, we regrettably notice that our Foreign Ministry has expressed its opposition to the trial of the U.S. hostages, announcing that the trial of the hostages would be detrimental to our interests. One ought to ask: What interests would be jeopardized? If it is a question of a threat to our interests, one ought to state that since the victory of the revolution the United States has not ceased attempting to jeopardize our interests. Now, when there remains no doubt about this threat to our interests, it makes no difference whether the hostages are tried or not tried. However, since to try the spying hostages is tantamount to trying the United States and to disgracing it before the world, and as this is what the imam and the risen nation want, the hostages must therefore be tried and receive their punishment.

It is hoped that in these final days of its life the Foreign Ministry will act in such a way as to make up for its past mistakes, even if it is through a few revolutionary acts.

Muskie Letter to Raja'i

LD011008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] According to the public relations office of the Prime Ministry, Prime Minister Raja'i received the charge d'affaires of the Swiss Embassy in Tehran yesterday evening. In the course of the meeting the charge d'affaires, expressing his congratulations on Raja'i's appointment as prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, handed him a letter from U.S. Secretary of State Muskie.

It should be recalled that following the break of diplomatic relations between Iran and the United States the Swiss Embassy in Tehran took over the diplomatic and consular affairs of the United States in Iran. According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, commenting on the text of the U.S. secretary of state's letter, Mr Raja'i has said that he will shortly make the contents of the letter public in the course of his meeting with the people.

PARS CARRIES RAJA'I LETTER LISTING CABINET CHOICES

LD311019 Tehran PARS in English 0845 GMT 31 Aug 80

[Text] [No dateline received] Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i (?has) sent a letter to the Islamic Consultative Assembly [word indistinct] Majles Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani announced today. The text of Raja'i's letter is as follows:

"Following discussions with President Bani-Sadr, the Council of Ministers is now ready to be introduced to the Majles. I take this opportunity to announce the list of my colleagues. I am ready to establish the governmental programmes. (?I) would like to obtain a vote of acceptance from the deputies at the first possible opportunity.

The following is the list of new Cabinet ministers:

Minister of economics and financial affairs and plan and budget organisation and employment organisation: Mohsen Nurbakhsh;
Minister of state and head of plan and budget organisation: Seyyed Esma'il Davudi;
Minister of health: Dra Manafi;
Minister of state and head of welfare: Mohammad 'Ali Fayyaz-Bakhsh;
Minister of post and telegraph and telephone; Mahmud Qandi;
Minister of roads and transport: Musa Kalantari;
Minister of foreign affairs: Hoseyn Musavi;
Minister of science and higher education: Dr Hasan 'Arefi;
Minister of commerce: Reza Sadr or Seyyed Asadollah Lajvardi;

Minister of industries (?and mines): Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh;
Minister of education: Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i;
Minister of agriculture: Mohammad Salamati;
Minister of labour and social affairs: Ahmad Tavakkoli;
Minister of state in executive affairs: Behzad Nabavi;
Minister of state and supervisor of Ministry of Housing and Urban Development: Mohammad Shahab Gonabadi;
Minister of Energy: Hasan 'Abbaspur;
Minister of national guidance: 'Abbas Duzduzani;
Minister of interior: Mohammad Reza Mahdavi Kani;
Minister of defence: [no name given];
Minister of oil: Asghar Ebrahimi.

RAJA'I SPEAKS ON BANI-SADR OPPOSITION TO CABINET CHOICES

NC020937 Paris AFP in English 0917 GMT 2 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 2 Sep (AFP)--Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i told parliament today that he had resumed talks with President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in an attempt to resolve the current government crisis.

Mr Raja'i has been unable to obtain the president's approval, as required under the Constitution, for the Cabinet list the premier submitted to parliament on Sunday.

He told parliament he conferred with the president last night and would be meeting with him again today.

The ministerial candidates whom Mr Bani-Sadr has turned down will be present at the meeting scheduled for today, Mr Raja'i said.

"This meeting will allow President Bani-Sadr to get better acquainted with some of those I am proposing as ministers," he said.

RAJA'I INTERVIEWED ON SELECTION OF CABINET

LD010220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2023 GMT 31 Aug 80

[Unidentified correspondent's interview with Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i in Tehran on 31 August--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful: The matter of choosing a prime minister and the Cabinet members has undergone some process up to today, and it is necessary that our dear compatriots should be made aware of what has been happening, especially because some issues have been raised in newspapers today, which I feel might lead to some kind of excitement or possibly rumors. I do not intend to start my work amid such rumors and talks. (?I was going to) discuss this problem after the vote of confidence of the Majles, or at least to raise the issue in the Majles itself, but when I read the reports of some of the newspapers today, it became necessary to raise the issue with the people of Iran to prevent a shaky start to the government, which in my view is going to be introduced as the last foundation of the Islamic Republic, or God forbid what has been raised in contrary to the Constitution. [sentence as heard]

In view of the fact that this problem has reac. d the ears of my dear compatriots, I want to report it so that they may realize what has happened and what the state of affairs has been. Briefly, I made a speech on a Friday in Tehran university.

In that speech I made some remarks on the relations between the people and the leaders, the relations between the people and the revolution and the condition by which a person can create a government to turn the aims of this revolution into reality. Several days after my speech the imam graciously made a speech on the same subject. These two speeches as a whole had a certain effect in the Majles, in view of the situation in the Majles at that time.

My story in the Majles is as follows: Before the organization of the Majles and the establishment of its competence, the ministers used to give a report of their functions to the Majles, and I, as the minister of education and training, submitted a report on my work. This report of course was not very comprehensive--there were matters which we did not have time to discuss--but at the end of the report two criticisms were made about the Education and Training Ministry. I answered these two criticisms in accordance with my own beliefs. From the two issues of inquisition and monopoly and the way I faced them, the Majles got the impression that I was aligned with its general line. From that day onward, it was noticed that the Majles could introduce me as one of the members who could be considered as the product of, or the representative of, the thought of the Majles.

Various suggestions were made to me, but I kept on resisting. I believed that if I was supposed to work anywhere other than the Majles, I would have to work in the Ministry of Education and Training. For this reason I did not participate in the elections of the speaker, the deputy speaker, and also the other cadres which were elected in the Majles. I convinced them that if I could and if the person in charge of the future government accepted, I would return to my office as minister of education and training. I always believed that I must be a minister to do service at a higher level, otherwise I would serve the Majles.

Well, to continue my story, my speech in the Majles and my reaction to the election of two deputies in connection with the issue of inquisition and the issue of monopoly created an atmosphere in the Majles. The issue of the introduction of the prime minister to the Majles was raised gradually. You know that one of the brothers was introduced to the Majles as the prime minister, and in the debates in the Majles regarding this introduction there were clashes and outbursts. We even thought that it would be necessary to invite the president to the Majles to inform him of the stream of thought of the Majles.

Telephone calls were made, a letter was written, and then our brother, Mr Bani-Sadr, came to the Majles. We raised this issue in an informal session and Mr Bani-Sadr made speeches and asked the Majles for help [word indistinct] to determine the criteria fo. the appointment of a prime minister who would be desirable to the Majles. Well, as you appreciate, after the president had gone, elections were held immediately and five people were selected, and it was agreed that one person would be sent by the president. We thought that the imam would send a representative as well, without having asked him, but his eminence refused to send a representative and said: I will not intervene.

The president rejected two out of the five as having expressed their views already. The Majles removed the two as a gesture of cooperation. Therefore three people from the Majles and one person from the president accepted the responsibility for investigating the competence of, or the criteria for, a prime minister. Well, this investigation was gradually turned into [word indistinct], namely the criteria which were discussed for the appointment of a prime minister automatically tended to bring about the question who would fulfill the required conditions.

The discussion was a long one, until the four-man committee introduced a number of people to the president. The president, following this introduction and the discussions that they had had previously, the three man committee submitted a report. [sentence as heard] The people of Iran are aware (?of this). He sent a list, possibly consisting of 14 people, and it was agreed that the committee should select from the 14 people. This committee eliminated some names. These eliminations were for various reasons, namely some declared that they were not ready to accept. The committee reached the point of introducing four people to the president. The president said: I categorically disagree with three of them; I even declare my disagreement. However, I have no personal disagreement concerning one of them. That is, as he had interpreted it, he said: From the point of view of some personal characteristics that should exist, I see these characteristics in him, but from the point of view of running the country and the line that should be pursued, I do not consider him eligible.

Among the criticism that the president has directed toward me, you have all heard that he has said that Mr Raja'i (?is this and that), but he is an obstinate person. In the matters that he discusses, even if it is proven contrary to what he believes, he still does what he wishes.

Now, this has the aspect of a report. The subject was raised in the Majles, and those who were giving reports from the committee said Mr Bani-Sadr said that I was not prepared to work with the rest at all, and as far as he was concerned, I had these faults. Mr Bani-Sadr had already stated his opinion of me. He did not even accept that I should be the minister of education and training. He did not raise the question of capability and so forth, except that he generally, or in other words I should rather say that what was raised here--and the representatives also noted--was that I am an obstinate person; that I am possibly not one to consult, or that if consultation takes place I would do as I wished until I was convinced. Apparently this problem was soluble. In our opinion, the attitude of the Majles toward this issue was that the president should assist in selecting the prime minister. This was the interpretation of myself and the rest of my colleagues in the Majles. The president has said the same thing from the beginning, that he wanted a parliament that cooperates with him. I think that this was the first opportunity that the Majles was giving the president concerning the selection of the prime minister.

When the question of my obstinacy was raised, one of the deputies proposed that I should try to solve this problem somehow; that compared to the main task of premiership, this problem was surmountable. I accepted the proposal. With Mr Bani-Sadr's agreement, we arranged a meeting. Mr Bani-Sadr stated the points that he had raised in connection with his criticism.

I should explain here that Mr Bani-Sadr raised two main issues. The first issue was that I am not one for consulting, that I would not listen to (?what people say). He gave some examples and I explained these examples. It turned out that at least in the examples that he had stated, the issue was not so.

But another criticism--and this was a basic one, and it is the root of some issues that still appear in letters and sentences--is that Mr Bani-Sadr believes that I was not successful at the Ministry of Education and Training. A lot of people share this view. I myself and the majority of the Majles deputies consider that I was successful at the Ministry of Education and Training. The reason that I gave the president there was that I have worked for this country for about 9 months. Most of the people who are directly connected with the Ministry of Education and Training are in Tehran. Had I been nominated for parliament in a city such as Rasht, Qazvin or Tabriz, I would probably have received 20,000 or 50,000 votes. But I required at least 1 million votes in order to be elected in the first stage of parliament.

Among those who were nominated for membership in parliament, I was one of those who had worked for a period and my work was reflected in the votes of the families, that is, as the president has said, some families were really dissatisfied with my work and some were very satisfied, that is they wanted what I was doing. My reasoning to him was that I had received more than 1 million votes in the first stage. Of course, the president believes that the reason that I had been placed on the list was because there were more [word indistinct]. I also said this to him there, that there were two misgivings about my election. One was answered in the second round of the elections: Those who thought that my presence had reduced their votes, they saw that in my absence they received less votes in the second round. The other misgiving was that I was still on the list. I told the president that there were people on that list who had been more effective in the preparation of the list than myself, but their votes were less than mine. Also there were people who were not on the list and received more votes than us. I rely on my 10 months work at the Ministry of Education and Training, and those who voted are those who had business with me through their sons, daughters or nephews. If there was a problem anywhere in the country, they would always blame it on the minister of education and training, positive or negative point. I thus stated this reasoning that I was a successful minister of education and training in my opinion and that of the Majles, but that I was unsuccessful in the opinion of our brother the president.

We arrived at this issue there, that the president did not believe that I could form a Cabinet. The four-man committee said that its mission was finished at this point, so it would go about its business, and according to the existing course, the president should introduce a number of people to the Majles. The Majles would then express its view. The president did not say there and then: You go and see what sort of support Mr Raja'i enjoys in parliament. If it is considerable, I will keep silent about my differences with him and introduce him.

The committee returned to the Majles in order to vote. This too had a root. The previous day when we had an open session, a number of deputies asked questions about me. It appeared from the Majles' atmosphere that if votes were to be taken about me, the problem would be clearer. If I did not receive favorable votes, then we would be out of the impasse; otherwise the impasse would be broken in another way. I was very happy to see the views of the Majles collectively rather than in the form of scattered views. Votes were cast in a closed session. Of those present, a considerable number voted in my favor. We informed Mr Bani-Sadr of the matter. He said: Alright, I will introduce him and will say nothing about the differences that I have with him. We, too, accepted and came to the Majles.

It was being discussed in the Majles whether the president would accept me or not, or whether we should resume our normal course or continue this assistance. I felt that the Majles had reached a mood and that my presence could possibly solve this problem. I volunteered to either resign as a candidate, or to agree among ourselves that the Majles should give me few votes, so that the president would have a free hand. I made this proposal, the Majles voted in the closed session, and the votes, as we informed the president, were considerable, to an extent that the president accepted.

The president personally introduced me to the Majles as the person to become prime minister in the future. He wrote a letter to the Majles and introduced me. He promised to write this letter, and he promised not to raise the question of the difference to the public. I attached a great deal of importance to this matter, for I could see how raising the issue of differences between those at the top prevented the people in various sections from trying and moving; and that instead of spending their energy for construction, they would spend it on shouting death to this and that.

I too, as a citizen of this country, was pained by this and thought that if I were to accept a part of this responsibility, one of my duties would be to alleviate this situation as much as possible.

Mr Bani-Sadr said: You and I will put aside our differences. I will say nothing of the differences and neither will you. When the people see that we are both at their service, they will have no problem, whether we have any differences or not. Mr Bani-Sadr agreed to keep quiet about his differences with me. Aside from myself and the president, four people were present at the time.

Another matter--which was a very important point and a resolver of difficulties [Moshgel Gosha] in my opinion--was that the president said: I will have nothing to do with the appointment of the ministers of this Cabinet, except the defense and interior ministers. He then explained why: the defense minister, because of the president's responsibility as the commander in chief of the forces, and the interior minister, because he believes that the elections should be organized by impartial persons.

It was a very interesting matter. Even though I have arguments--to say the least, not to say differences--with our brother the president regarding a number of stands, the president gave me a free hand in selecting all the ministers, except the defense and interior ministers. Following this message and declaration, I went to the Majles. They voted on the basis of Mr Bani-Sadr's introduction. Discussions took place regarding the quality of his introduction [as heard], and finally they voted and as predicted, some of the friends were against and some abstained. Of 197 persons, 153 voted in favor.

After the voting, I embarked on forming the Cabinet. I said something in the parliament, and the people of Iran should know that I did so consciously. I answered for the comments that I had made on some points. There is something that all the people of Iran should be told, which is: I have seen many a confrontation in my life in connection with fighting. I have encountered many problems. At times for expedience I was boycotted in society, as if my political career had gone up in smoke, but because I saw it in connection with the revolution and the Islamic movement, I considered it all tolerable. I said in parliament that day that I knew full well what I was doing, that I could clearly see the world, the chaos and disorder and that I would strive to improve, with God's help and the people's will.

Many of my colleagues said: You are truly being wasted in your movement. I quoted somebody there. I said: I had a friend--who I pray that God will guide--who said sometimes people should pay for building schools, sometimes they should push pens, sometimes make speeches, sometimes even work, sometimes give up their reputations. There are a lot of people whose reputations are sometimes needed for the accomplishment of a vital deed. I consciously do this, and if I have the smallest reputation and good will among the people, I am prepared to sacrifice it for the revolution. I was a member of parliament. My credentials had been approved without any agrument. I could have sat there at my leisure. We all know what results being prime minister or minister have these days. I said to the Majles then that I was prepared to invest my reputation in order to break this impasse which the Majles faced, and the people likewise. I say the same thing today.

If I raised the points about my capability, faith, line and my connection with the imam--and whatever I have said before--I did so in order to do something in face of this mountain of problems. They will note, as much as God's help, the people's will and sincerity, that if I am to be sacrificed for this movement, I am ready. [sentence as heard] As in the past, in other forms, many of my brothers showed their preparedness more firmly than I. This is the issue.

After this discussion and the Majles vote, I started to consult with various bodies--which has never happened in Iran's history. In order to form the government, I invited various Islamic societies and before introducing my candidates to the parliament, I introduced them to the representatives of the Islamic societies and organizations, consulted them, considered their views and listened to their criticisms. Those who are listening to me now know that they had views regarding some of my ministers and I acted upon their views. They had positive and negative views. I have reached a conclusion up to the point of introducing them to my brother, the president. Up to the legal deadline, according to the internal regulations of the Majles--which I myself believe, the president was not bound to obey that law, but in any case the internal regulations of the Majles stated that I had 10 days, and exactly at the end of the 10 days, the president issued the decree concerning my premiership. In this decree, he again stated a point that relates to what I have reported to my dear compatriots.

[Raja'i reads the decree] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i: Regarding the issue of your selection and the vote of intent of the honorable members, you are appointed prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It should be recalled that under the present sensitive circumstances, as prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran you should obey the contents of the Constitution. Striving toward the maintenance of security and unity and economic reconstruction and the establishment of Islamic ideologies in the relations between the people and the regime, and toward the economic, political and cultural stability and independence of the country, and providing the rights and freedom of the individual should be given top priority by your government. This will not be possible, except by achieving solidarity and understanding between the forces committed to the Islamic Revolution of Iran. [end of decree]

Before our brother Bani-Sadr pointed this out, I had done so. They asked me: How do you solve the differences between the power centers? I said: It is because interpretations vary. If we were to accept that these revolutionary organizations stem from the core of society and the heart of the people, there would be differences. It depends on the following point: that if I appoint a person who had been a nobody until yesterday in this country, who is eligible, as a minister, this could be interpreted in two ways. One person might say: You have done so [word indistinct], which is said in the Koran: He turns the lowest of the society into dear ones. This is one interpretation.

When I introduce one of our brothers as the minister of labor, considering that he has organised all the revolutionary movements in Behshahr, this could be interpreted in two ways. It is possible, as this verse of the Koran says, to say that I have done something that a king might do, making a minister out of a person who up to yesterday was a nobody; another interpretation also could be made according to Imam 'Ali's sermon which says: When a revolution is made, those who had gained a high-ranking position without being suitable for it will fall to the lowest position; and those who were kept down without any reason will be promoted. This is another interpretation.

My interpretation is that those people who have been committed to this revolution and have not been made use of during the past 18 months, they are suffering. They are prepared to invest all their existence, all their assets, all their desires and wishes in the revolution. I have chosen such people and have taken a list of their names to our brother Bani-Sadr. It is true that before taking the list to him, I had another meeting with him following the Kermanshah incident. At that meeting I did not talk to him about any minister, because of a statement which the president had made before--I can read what he wrote also.

I only mentioned the minister of defense and the minister of the interior. Perhaps I only talked to him about the defense minister; at the time I, for instance, told him: Mr so-and-so has been recommended to me, what do you think? I only mentioned that issue.

I introduced the members of my Cabinet the day after he issued the decree. He had gone to Kerman on the same day, before I received the decree. I made telephone calls, and as far as I can remember I found him in Zarand, in Kerman. I told him that the members of my Cabinet were ready. His excellency said that he would return on Saturday evening. I think he received me on Saturday evening. I presented him with a list of the Cabinet members and said that they did not appeal to him. I had a prolonged discussion with him. I said: I have made these choices in accordance with your own remarks. It is true that I have not consulted you, but you had also told me that you had nothing to do with my ministers except those of defense and the interior; therefore you can even now discuss my choice of the ministers of the interior and defense. I had nominated a person for the Ministry of Defense who had suffered struggle, jail, torture, and wandering about for many years, and I believe that he knew society, and it is he who would understand where a call comes from if there is a call, and how it should be tackled. But according to the undertaking I had given I agreed to revise the choice, in spite of the interest I had in my would-be interior minister and in spite of all hopes I had of his appointment, because it had been agreed that we should agree on the choice of the interior and defense ministers, so that the president should agree as well.

There the question was raised whether the approval of the president is an issue or not. The only argument I had with our brother Bani-Sadr was the remark he made himself. He said: I am affected by the ministers of defense and the interior and I must express my views on them. I have nothing to do with the rest of your ministers. I went and chose those individuals on that basis, so when I talked to them I did not mention to them that our brother president must approve their appointments. In them I found the qualities and the criteria I had in mind for ministers. I had taken everything into account except the condition that the president must approve those criteria or this person as well. I was sure that that question would never be raised. Well, in fact the president had bestowed his own right on me with that remark of his about all except the defense and interior ministers. Therefore, when I left I asked his excellency to make an announcement to that effect. The president agreed and wrote me a letter stating:

Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister:

I have nothing to do with the ministers, a list of whom you have sent to me, as I said from the beginning. Do as you wish. With regard to the ministers of defense and the interior, because of the sensitivity of the state of the country, I feel the need for my approval is necessary.

Based on this document which he signed and gave to me, I got on with my work, and he kept on announcing: With regard to the rest of the ministers, I do not feel my approval is necessary. This was the president's right; he could have said: Look, I have said something, but now I feel that what I have said cannot be put into practice. I thought you would go and bring a group of people, say classified as A, but you have brought a group of B people, and I cannot agree with you. In that case the problem would have been much easier. I would have gone and would have sat on my chair in the Majles and then we would have proceeded with another issue.

But as the president did not write that letter, I went to think about and decide on the ministers of defense and interior.

In the discussions I had with my brothers--the Cabinet I had chosen--we reached the conclusion that the state of the country was not in a condition that it could be delayed any longer. It would be better to leave the ministers of defense and the interior, and on the rest consult the president and submit the list to the Majles. I presented him with a list and reminded him on the phone that I would bring him the list, minus defense and interior ministers, and he would introduce this list to the Majles.

He said: Come and see me. I have written you a letter. I went to see his excellency, and I took the list with me. He had written a letter. There were certain points in that letter--I do not know whether he would publish that letter himself or not. I have written a reply to that letter, and have not presented him with the letter yet, but on the whole the problem was that his excellency thought that among the persons I had chosen there were individuals whose stands were such that the president could not work with them. I told his excellency that this thought of his was not new; you had even told me that you did not recognize me as a minister of education and training, let alone as prime minister. But from the first day we had agreed that you would keep silent on the things you did not approve of. You are not supposed to move against what we agreed on from the first day when you see an instance to which you cannot agree. Well, I talked to him for a long time; and at last, after receiving the letter he gave me, I left.

When I left our brothers, our professors Mr Musavi-Ardabili and Mr Mahdavi Kani again informed us that they had been received by the imam and they had talked to the imam about the ministers I had chosen, and that the imam had said: I shall not intervene. Go and sit together and reach an understanding. I was invited to a meeting, which was held on Tuesday the 26th [month not specified; presumably 26 August]. It started a few minutes after 1600. At this meeting Mr Hashemi, the president, Mr Musavi-Ardabili, Mr Mahdavi Kani, Mr Ahmad Aqa Khomeyni and I were present. We talked for about 8 hours. In this 8 hours issues were raised by the brothers, the president, and I. The general aspects of the issue were raised and [words indistinct] of the individuals. Our brothers Musavi-Ardabili and Mahdavi Kani made some remarks about the individuals and suggested some other individuals. Replacements were made, and without having reached a final conclusion on all members of the Cabinet, or on those who had been announced, I declared that I had been volunteered for the premiership on certain conditions, and that if those conditions were not fulfilled I would go away without being offended, and that another person who agrees with the criteria you or the president mentions could come and take the responsibility.

I am glad that I had not made any move for being prime minister. On some occasions I had even been reproached by my friends. That meeting ended and I, with regard to the [words indistinct]. The case lasted until Saturday evening. On Saturday--sorry, Friday--sorry, Thursday evening, I telephoned Bani-Sadr and I realized that he had been expecting me. He sent me a list. I considered that list. On Saturday morning I presented him with a list I had prepared with regard to the discussion which had taken place at that meeting so far as they did not alter my standards, which are what we had raised in the Majles and what the Majles had agreed on. He said that he had a meeting with the imam on that day. I had a meeting with the imam myself on that day, following the 8-hour meeting. After his meeting with the imam I took the list to him--in fact, I am talking about yesterday evening. Yesterday afternoon we again had a very long discussion--for 2 hours, from 1500 to 1700. It was an interesting meeting; after I had again expressed my views, Mr Bani-Sadr expressed his views as well. On the appointment of defense and interior ministers I asked him not to hurry. I told him that I accepted those individuals.

I told him that, on the appointment at the defense minister in particular, he had a preference, but that he could not just introduce him and leave him. One of our military brothers who was present there raised a point, and as a matter of fact we agreed on his opinion. It was agreed that we talk later. As he did not talk I have not put down his name on the Cabinet list. I have left room for the defense minister blank until he talks. If he talks and we reach a conclusion then we shall mention his name. So, we both reached a conclusion. Mr Bani-Sadr prepared a letter at that meeting. His last statements were: I shall work with this Cabinet of yours. I shall not work in a manner which might lead to your defeat, but I shall work for your victory, as my views are monotheistic views, unlike yours--well, that was his opinion. I did not say anything yesterday and I shall not add anything. If I work with such a Cabinet, and you become successful, my theory will be proved once more, which is a monotheistic theory. I thanked him and said: We are definily moving toward a common cause [eshterak] and although we have differences of opinion, we have common beliefs in connection with the people. Both of us want to serve the people. I am quite sure that if I am defeated, you [Raja'i does not finish his sentence]. Even if we have differences of opinion, we definitely have the same view with regard to the people and both of us want to serve the people.

The president, in a state of happiness and pleasure, gave me two books and advised me to read their introductions. He said that he had some views on the relationship between materialism and spiritualism, and we had a discussion on that. It was agreed that he would type the letter he had written in my presence and submit it to the Majles. On this basis I went to give my first report to the Defense Ministry, where a meeting was being held. Then I returned to my office. I was asked about developments and I said that the president would introduce the Cabinet to the Majles.

Of course, Mr Bani-Sadr later wrote a letter to the imam, and received a reply to that letter, which, God willing, will be discussed in the Majles. The imam continued his stand. He said: I shall not intervene. He only recommended [words indistinct], revolutionary, and [word indistinct], and such things, which I do not know about as I have not seen the text of the letter. Mr Bani-Sadr sent the text of the letter to the Majles. In yesterday's, as well as today's letter, he placed great emphasis on following the Constitution. I do not think anybody who has seen Iran, with all its martyrs, captives and invalids, knowing that the product of all this is the Constitution, would say: I do not want the Constitution to be enforced. Therefore, this emphasis, in my opinion, is an unnecessary explanation; of course everybody must act according to the Constitution not only now, but from the first day, namely, whatever our brother the president has said in any place, from whatever stand, must be in accordance with the Constitution. Whatever move I make, must be in accordance with the Constitution. If we do not act according to the Constitution, on what basis can we carry out our duties? How can we respond to the martyrs, captives, exiles, and invalids? How can we respond to God? How can we justify the wasting of all the forces he has sent to us? Therefore, it is very natural for the Majles, for the prime minister, and for the president to act in accordance with the Constitution, and in my opinion they have acted like this so far. Well, the question is whether the Majles will listen to this sort of thing by me, God willing, on Tuesday. If the Constitution deters the vote of the Majles for me, it will definitely not vote for me. But I declare that I, the Majles, which is the representative of the whole country, [words indistinct], the president--who has made many speeches in our society and is well known--all of us are in the service of the people.

Now the newspapers reveal what exists between the president and myself, put it in a tabloid and specify: Everything must be carried out in accordance with the Constitution.

Do they mean that the president, a person who was present in the making of the Constitution, a person who has been chosen as one of the experts of this society, and has legislated this Constitution, has acted contrary to the Constitution? The president has issued me a decree, he has written me a letter. He has written to me:

Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i:

As I have mentioned from the beginning, I have nothing to do with the ministers, a list of whom you have sent me. Do as you wish. On the question of the ministers of defence and interior, owing to the sensitivity of the state of the country, I consider my approval necessary.

Well, the president has not considered the approval of the other minister as necessary. What has been the reason? The only person who knows the answer is himself. How come some newspaper [Raja'i does not finish his sentence]. What has been going on between the president and me in some place? And the president, who has taken an oath to act in accordance with the Constitution, has of course acted in accordance with the Constitution.

In my opinion this is a move which cannot be defended by those newspapers or anybody who wants to discuss them. The president is more worried about the people than those newspapers, and I definitely feel more responsibility toward the people than that newspaper.

I demand all my compatriots to keep calm and to control themselves, and not to think of what, Heaven forbid, is not pleasing to God. In no way do I feel a need for shouting slogans such as: "Long live X," or "Down with Y." What matters today is the people's interests, the destiny of the revolution. The movement which is unprecedented in the history of Shi'ism has started and with all consciousness we must not allow some journalist to write something in the newspapers in utter ignorance. The president himself has made speeches and could have easily said this sort of thing in his speeches. He definitely had good reason. What is this you have written? What the president has done so far has been in accordance with the Constitution. If in some place, in accordance with the Constitution, he has given up his own rights [Raja'i does not finish his sentence]. He has written here: "I felt the need for approval as necessary" only in two cases. He did not feel his approval was necessary on the other occasions. If the president himself does not consider his approval as necessary, then it will not be very courteous of some newspaper to print about the president and myself and to place society in such a situation.

I am one of the small children of the nation; in fact, I am the son of the Majles, the child of this nation; I appeal to you to control yourselves, to safeguard the blood of all martyrs, the fruit of which must be the victory of our Islamic Revolution. I want you to know that neither the president, the prime minister nor the Majles will make any move but in the interests of the people and toward the victory of our dear Islamic Revolution. We will, God willing, be victorious. Our enemies will go blind and be defeated. Our Islamic Revolution will arise victorious out of all problems. I wish you victory.

BANI-SADR HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANSWER CRITICS

LD021048 Tehran PARS in English 0900 GMT 2 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 2 Sep (PARS)--President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in a press conference in Sunday announced his viewpoints about the statement of the Islamic revolutionary majahedin organisation entitled "The Necessity of Revealing the Hindrances to the Formation of a Cabinet in the Imam's Line."

The statement which was addressed to the Majles deputies was published in one of the morning daily newspapers on Saturday and was also broadcast on the radio. President Bani-Sadr considered the 10 points mentioned in the statement regarding obstructions to the formation of an Islamic Cabinet as lies and enumerated his reasons as follows:

He said that the state radio read a text and a commentary from a very small group written against the president. "How can those who weaken the president's position with lies claim that their intention in so weakening the president, who is the head of the executive power, is to strengthen the government which follows the imam's line and the Majles?" "Let's (?stop those who) are weakening the Majles." He added: "As a president I entrusted the appointment of the prime minister to the discretion of the Majles and assigned a delegation from the Majles to study the case. Therefore, no one can accuse me of having any intention of weakening the Majles. This is the first lie. (?Those) people have the intention of weakening the Majles who have always insisted and still insist that Majles should operate under the pressure of an artificial atmosphere in which in fact it would never be free."

Referring to the nomination of the prime minister and the formation of the government before the Majles would start its official task, he said that it was not without prior notice. A project was set forth in the Revolutionary Council regarding an analysis of the present conditions of the country in which they were discovered to be similar to the conditions prior to the coup d'etat of August 19, 1953. It was decided that we would make ourselves ready for preventing any coup and arrange something like a counter-coup.

Speaking about why he insisted on nominating people such as Salamatian, Nobari, Tabataba'i and even Admiral Madani and Daryush Foruhar as prime minister, he said: "I have never had any such intention. I am not the man to introduce any person of whom I have no experience. Concerning Rear-Admiral Madani, I should say that he was the first choice for premiership even in the public opinion poll done by Deputy Minister of Interior Mir Salim. However, I opposed his premiership decisively."

Referring to opposition, and even insults to the prime minister who was in the line of Imam Khomeyni before and during his appointment and approval by the Majles..., President Bani-Sadr said: "You who do not consider belittling and enfeebling the prime minister to be good mannered, why don't (?you) show (?the same and) implement proper manners and respect to the president?"

Commenting on speeches and slogans against the prime minister and in support of the president, Bani-Sadr said: "I can't remember having [word indistinct] such speeches or having heard such slogans. If it was prior or after my presence at the spot then I don't know."

The president then mentioned the contradictory remarks about the economic sanctions and military plots. "If you say that there are no economic sanctions, military threats, internal plots, weak economic conditions and lack of security at present then what do we need you for then? If these comments are not correct and the conditions are disastrous, then what are you saying?" Talking about the oft-repeated comment that piety takes precedence over and about the abortive coup plot, he said that the plot was discovered by the president's office in the Nojeh garrison but others are presently claiming credit for this: "There is no doubt that we have given priority to idelogy. There are people who think that ideology and expertise are something separate while this is not so."

The president then read another part of the statement concerning the alleged expansive plots for weakening the Cabinet, and said: "This is another sorrowful lie.

"If there were no foreign plots, and we were confident that the United States has not been masterminding any plans for us, and if the society were like a laboratory mouse so that they would have been our instruments for experimentation, then we could have exercised leadership and ideological manipulation of them. But since these problems exist, I am obliged to search for the line of understanding."

Referring to his line and his alleged corruption of the imam's line, he said that the president is responbile for implementing the laws and if a government would come to power that does not want to implement laws, then its line is different from that of the president. "My line is the line of constitutional law and it should be implemented. The president should enact the laws. Many things could be approved by the Majles, but I cannot hamper their execution."

Commenting on the charge that the present ministers are said to be asleep or else accomplices of counter-revolution, Bani-Sadr said: "These ministers have been mostly appointed by the Revolutionary Council and I have not chosen them. More than 90 percent of the Iranian people want to have the minimum facilities for living. They want spiritual poverty to be eliminated."

Replying to a question regarding what the government guidelines should be to solve the problems and save the country from this critical condition, he said: "These standards have been given by the holy Koran. (The government) should have Islamic insight and understand Islam from various dimensions and monotheism shape the basis for action. It should present clear goals to the society and follow them up firmly. The government should follow the path of understanding."

President Bani-Sadr declined to announce the important points of his letter to Imam Khomeyni, and only said that he had given it to the Majles. He only mentioned that the imam had announced that he would not interfere in the nomination of the ministers. The imam only mentioned that they should be devoted to the revolution, and that they should be efficient, active and having managerial capability and have understanding with one another."

COVERAGE OF ACTIVITIES OF AYATOLLAH KHOMEYNI

Canceling of Welfare Meeting

LD300830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the coordination staff for Islamic associations of the Ministry of Health and Welfare:

In his exalted name. As members of the coordination staff of the Islamic associations of hospitals and cooperative units of the Ministry of Health and treatment centers, following recommendations of doctors and advice given by the illustrious canonist, His Excellency Ayatollah Montazeri stated repeated meetings are injurious to the health of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we, in the interests of the imam's health, agree to cancel our meeting with him due to take place on Wednesday, 3 September.

We cherish the hope that other groups and sundry sections of the population will follow our example and refrain, as far as possible, from requesting meetings with him.

Talks With Bani-Sadr on Cabinet

LD301038 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president of the republic, was received in audience this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They exchanged views on the formation of the Cabinet and issues of the realm. At the conclusion of this audience the president of the republic, in an interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY, said: The imam emphasized that the members of the government should be pious, should be specialists and should be worthy. Dr Bani-Sadr added: During the audience we held discussions and exchanged views generally with regard to the setting up of the government, the country's security, the tasks which we had performed, the (?tasks) ahead and also about juridicalsecurity, which we hope--God willing--will be expanding daily.

Asked when the members of the government would be appointed, the president of the republic said that it would not be long, but the selection of its members should be made judiciously.

Postponing of Air Force Meeting

LD011840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] The Islamic association of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced in a statement "that we, the Islamic association of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, wanted to meet the leader of the revolution and the hope of world's oppressed but, on the basis of a request made by Ayatollah Montazeri and the imam's bureau for the sake of imam's health, have decided to withdraw our request to meet the imam.

AIDE SPEAKS ON KHOMEYNI WARNING TO SUNNIS, SHI'ITES

JN300850 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Under the headline "Differences Between Shi'ites and Sunnis Serve Colonialist Interests Only," the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI quotes Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Khosrowshahi, the imam's representative at the Ministry of National Guidance, after his meeting with the imam of the nation yesterday afternoon and prior to his departure for Algeria to attend a conference on Islamic thought, as saying that he will deliver the imam's speech to the members of the conference.

In his statements, published by JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, Hadi Khosrowshahi said: The leader imam has stressed that fomenting differences between Shi'ites and Sunnis will only serve the interests of the colonialists in the West and in the East.

In his speech, the leader of the Islamic Revolution calls on the Islamic peoples to unite, close ranks and show solidarity.

Referring to the Western news agencies' distortions of his eminence's statements on the awaited Imam al-Mahdi, the leader of the nation called on the Islamic peoples to act in an independent manner, without pinning any hopes on governments which claim to be Islamic ones--such as in Iraq and Egypt--and to rise, relying on God, to establish Islamic governments in their countries.

JOHMURI-YE ESLAMI concludes: The Islamic conference on Islamic thought is held annually in Algeria and is attended by ulema from Islamic countries.

PROSECUTOR GENERAL CLOSES TUDEH PUBLISHING HOUSE

LD011458 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, by order of the office of the Islamic revolution prosecutor general, the Nowsayeh and Razm publishing house, on Shahr-e Razi Avenue, Farhad Close, No 33, has been closed down because it was an operation of the Tudeh Party. Under the sign of a publishing house the place was being used as a commune. At this place several cameras, Fada'i-ye Khalq statements, movie cameras, printing equipment and photographs of individuals making Feda'i-ye Khalq placards were discovered. All this equipment has been confiscated by the office of the prosecutor general.

Also according to the Central News Bureau, by order of the office of the Islamic revolution prosecutor general of Tehran, the Gutenberg bookbinding house under the supervision of Mr Asghar (Shamshirgaran) was confiscated and handed over to the foundation of the oppressed. The house was accused of publishing and distributing banned publications including KAR, PEYKAR, TUFAN, news bulletins of Feday'i-ye Khalq commandoes and other such publications.

The address of the bookbinding house was Ferdowsi Avenue, Khandaniha Lane.

TUDEH PARTY ORDERED TO CLARIFY CERTAIN PUBLISHED ARTICLES

LD011416 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the public relations office of the Islamic public prosecutor's office has given the Tudeh Party officials 48 hours to report to the press department of the public prosecutor's office in order to clear up certain articles published by the party newspaper MARDOM. The office is located at Qasr crossroads. Should they fail to report within 48 hours then the prosecutor's office will be obliged to (?try) them in absentia.

KHALKHALI ANNOUNCES AMNESTY FOR 300 FORMER ADDICTS

LD312216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Aug 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheikh Sadeq Khalkhali, the supervisor of the headquarters for combating narcotics, tonight announced that on the occasion of the anniversary of the bloody and decisive day of 8 September, the day of liberation and Islam, (?300) drug addicts, who have now abandoned their habit, will be freed. These people have promised not to have anything more to do with narcotics and they have promised to become healthy people, sympathetic toward the Islamic Republic of Iran.